

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 SPC-01 L-02

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 R*C-01 DODE-00 AID-10 IGA-01

ACDA-10 MC-02 IO-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-03 INRE-00

SSO-00 /078 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:PDCONSTABLE:BK

APPROVED BY NEA:SSOBER

NEA/INS:LBLAINGEN (DRAFT)

OASD/ISA/NESA:COL.J.W.HALE (SUBS)

PM:COL. FARNHAM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 009639

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, PK, IN, US

SUBJECT: PAK REQUEST FOR RADAR INSTALLATIONS

REFS: ISLAMABAD 431; ISLAMABAD 438

1. GOP AIDE MEMOIRE AND AZIZ AHMED'S COMMENTS ON PEACE
INDIGO REPORTED REFTELS APPEAR TO DEPARTMENT AS RATHER
DISINGENUOUS EFFORT IN CAMPAIGN TO PRESSURE USG INTO
CHANGE OF CURRENT MILITARY SUPPLY POLICY. WE ARE DUBIOUS
ABOUT GOP ASSERTIONS OF SURPRISE OVER RENEWAL OF PEACE
INDIGO PROJECT. WE ARE EQUALLY DUBIOUS THAT THERE WAS
GENUINE MISUNDERSTANDING OF EMBASSY'S DEC. 11, 1972 NOTE.
WE ARE INCLINED TO BELIEVE THAT CURRENT GOP VERSION IS
PART OF TACTICAL EFFORT RATHER THAN REFLECTION OF ANY

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MISINTERPRETATION AT THE TIME THE NOTE WAS DELIVERED.

EMBASSY SHOULD ALSO BE AWARE THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S SPOKESMAN ON MARCH 14, 1973 IN ANNOUNCING THE REVISION OF OUR MILITARY SUPPLY POLICY TOWARD SOUTH ASIA NOTED "THERE WAS ONE OUTSTANDING COMMITMENT TO INDIA WHICH MAY NOW GO FORWARD, WHICH HAD TO DO WITH A COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM FOR A RADAR SYSTEM WHICH WE HAD SUPPLIED SOMETIME AGO TO THE INDIANS." IT STRETCHES OUR CREDULITY TO BELIEVE THAT GOP FAILED TO TAKE NOTE OF THIS PUBLIC STATEMENT LAST MARCH. IN ANY EVENT, USG WAS FULLY CANDID IN ITS PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT THAT PEACE INDIGO COULD GO FORWARD.

2. FOR YOUR BACKGROUND IN RESPONDING TO AIDE MEMOIRE, PART OF USG POLICY REVISION IN MARCH 1973 INCLUDED THE SO-CALLED "CLEAN UP" OF PAST COMMITMENTS. USG SOUGHT IN THIS EXERCISE TO HONOR PRIOR AGREEMENTS CONCLUDED WITH BOTH GOP AND GOI. IN THE CASE OF PAKISTAN, THE USG HONORED THE SALES AGREEMENT FOR 300 APC'S AND HAS PERMITTED DELIVERY TO GO FORWARD. WITH INDIA, USG HAS HONORED AN AGREEMENT SIGNED IN 1968 TO PROVIDE 17 MILLION DOLS IN FMS CREDITS TO COVER SALE OF COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT KNOWN AS PEACE INDIGO. THERE WAS SOME MONTHS' DELAY IN IMPLEMENTING PEACE INDIGO AS THE GOI RENEGOTIATED THE SALES CONTRACT WITH THE MANUFACTURERS. THE GOI ALSO RENEGOTIATED REPAYMENT SCHEDULE WITH DOD TO ACCOUNT FOR DELAY, AND IT WAS THIS RENEGOTIATION THAT TRIGGERED RECENT ROUND OF PUBLICITY ON PEACE INDIGO. HOWEVER, USG PARTICIPATION IS LIMITED TO PROVISION OF FMS CREDITS PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED AND AGREED TO IN WRITING FOR THIS PROJECT WITH GOI PRIOR TO THE 1971 EMBARGO. (FYI: PEACE INDIGO CREDIT SALES AGREEMENT WAS CONCLUDED MAY 31, 1968.)

3. AS TO THE GOP'S SPECIFIC REQUEST CONTAINED IN THE AIDE MEMOIRE, PRESENT POLICY WOULD IN PRINCIPLE PERMIT ISSUANCE OF LICENSES AS DESCRIBED AT CONCLUSION OF AIDE MEMOIRE. (WE WOULD HOWEVER NEED FURTHER DETAILED INFORMATION WITH REGARD TO SPECIFICATIONS AND APPLICATION OF EQUIPMENT.) THE GOP IS FREE TO CONTACT APPROPRIATE MANUFACTURERS IN U.S. TO DISCUSS AVAILABILITIES AND
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COSTS. HOWEVER, OUR PRESENT POLICY PRECLUDES EITHER GRANT OR NEW FMS CREDITS FOR MILITARY EQUIPMENT PROCUREMENT BY PAKISTAN OR INDIA. PAKISTAN'S PURCHASE OF RADAR AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT WOULD BE ON CASH SALES BASIS.

4. ASSUME YOU WILL SEEK APPROPRIATE OPPORTUNITY TO SET GOP RIGHT ON THEIR IMPLICIT SUGGESTION WE DID NOT DEAL STRAIGHT WITH THEM RE PEACE INDIGO. ABOVE ACCOUNT

SHOULD ALSO ENABLE YOU TO RESPOND IN REASONABLY POSITIVE
VEIN TO THIS LATEST PAK APPROACH TO YOU FOR SUPPLY OF
RADAR AND OTHER EQUIPMENT. AS FOR FINANCIAL ASPECT,
OUR POLICY ON CASH ONLY FOR NEW PURCHASES IS CLEARLY
SPELLED OUT AND WE BELIEVE IS WELL KNOWN TO GOP. THUS
THERE SEEMS TO BE NO REASON FOR US TO FEEL THEY HAVE
US OVER A BARREL ON THIS ONE. THE ONLY BARREL WE
PERCEIVE AT THIS MOMENT IS THE ONE FORESEEN TO PUT
"CASH ON THE ..." FOR PURCHASES OF MILITARY MATERIEL
AUTHORIZED UNDER OUR EXISTING POLICY. RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SURVEILLANCE, TELECOMMUNICATION, RADAR EQUIPMENT, WARNING SYSTEMS, MILITARY SALES, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE009639
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: PDCONSTABLE:BK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740137/aaaabiwu.tel
Line Count: 125
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: ISLAMABAD 431; ISLAMABAD 438
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 AUG 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <13 DEC 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PAK REQUEST FOR RADAR INSTALLATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, PK, IN, US
To: ISLAMABAD
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005